

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis, 3(c) and 72.2)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)
08 September 2006 (08.09.2006)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
03HH20/PCT

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/014537

To:

KLÖPPER, Ute
Airbus Deutschland GmbH
Patentabteilung ER
Postfach 950109
21111 Hamburg
ALLEMAGNE

Akte
Vorlage DIV
IPAS

EINGEGANGEN

13. Sep. 2006

Erl.

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International filing date (day/month/year)
21 December 2004 (21.12.2004)

Applicant

AIRBUS DEUTSCHLAND GMBH et al

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Gineva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Agnes Wittrmann-Regis

Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70

Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 03HH20/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/EP2004/014537	International filing date (day/month/year) 21 December 2004 (21.12.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 30 December 2003 (30.12.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant AIRBUS DEUTSCHLAND GMBH			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis.2).

Date of issuance of this report 29 August 2006 (29.08.2006)
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Authorized officer

Agnes Wittmann-Regis

e-mail: pi06@wipo.int

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70

Form PCT/IB/373 (January 2004)

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: _____

TRANSLATION
PCT

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

<p>Applicant's or agent's file reference 03HH20/PCT</p> <p>International application No. PCT/EP2004/014537</p> <p>International filing date (day/month/year) 21.12.2004</p> <p>Priority date (day/month/year) 30.12.2003</p> <p>International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC B21J15/10, B23P19/04, B23Q1/01</p>			<p style="text-align: right;">See form PCT/ISA/210 See form PCT/ISA/210</p> <p style="text-align: right;">See paragraph 2 below</p>
<p>Applicant AIRBUS DEUTSCHLAND GMBH</p>			

<p>1.</p>	<p>This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>	
<p>2.</p>	<p>FURTHER ACTION</p> <p>If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than that one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1(a)(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.</p> <p>If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.</p> <p>For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.</p>	

<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP</p> <p>Facsimile No. _____</p>	<p>Authorized officer</p> <p>Telephone No. _____</p>
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/014537

Box No. I	Basis of this opinion
1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.	
<input type="checkbox"/> This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).	
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:	
a. type of material	
<input type="checkbox"/> a sequence listing	
<input type="checkbox"/> table(s) related to the sequence listing	
b. format of material	
<input type="checkbox"/> in written format	
<input type="checkbox"/> in computer readable form	
c. time of filing/furnishing	
<input type="checkbox"/> contained in the international application as filed.	
<input type="checkbox"/> filed together with the international application in computer readable form.	
<input type="checkbox"/> furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.	
3. <input type="checkbox"/> In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.	
4. Additional comments:	

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/014537

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement																			
<p>1. Statement</p> <table> <tr> <td>Novelty (N)</td> <td>Claims <u>8, 9, 11, 14-20</u></td> <td>YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Claims <u>1-7, 10, 12, 13</u></td> <td>NO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inventive step (IS)</td> <td>Claims <u>14-20</u></td> <td>YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Claims <u>8, 9, 11</u></td> <td>NO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Industrial applicability (IA)</td> <td>Claims <u>1-20</u></td> <td>YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Claims _____</td> <td>NO</td> </tr> </table> <p>2. Citations and explanations:</p> <p>1 Reference is made to the following documents:</p> <p>D1: WO 99/37429 A (GENERAL ELECTRO MECHANICAL CORPORATION) 29 July 1999 (1999-07-29)</p> <p>D2: EP-A-0 483 947 (GEMCOR ENGINEERING) 6 May 1992 (1992-05-06)</p> <p>2 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1</p> <p>The present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claim 1 is not novel within the meaning of PCT Article 33(2). Document D1 discloses (the references between parentheses refer to this document):</p> <p>an assembly apparatus (10) for joining shell-shaped casing longitudinal segments (see page 15, line 31 to page 16, line 2) of a longitudinally extending casing body (12) (see figure 4), forming a large component and defining a cavity with open front end, by producing at least one longitudinal joint seam (see page 15, line 32) on the body casing, comprising at least one tool pair (83, 85) which has an inner tool (85), displaceably guided in the</p>			Novelty (N)	Claims <u>8, 9, 11, 14-20</u>	YES		Claims <u>1-7, 10, 12, 13</u>	NO	Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>14-20</u>	YES		Claims <u>8, 9, 11</u>	NO	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-20</u>	YES		Claims _____	NO
Novelty (N)	Claims <u>8, 9, 11, 14-20</u>	YES																		
	Claims <u>1-7, 10, 12, 13</u>	NO																		
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>14-20</u>	YES																		
	Claims <u>8, 9, 11</u>	NO																		
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-20</u>	YES																		
	Claims _____	NO																		

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

longitudinal direction (X) of the casing body (12) inside the cavity, and an outer tool (83) displaceably guided in the longitudinal direction (X) of the casing body (12) outside the cavity, the tools (83, 85) in the pair interacting transversely to the body longitudinal direction (X) for producing the joint seam (see page 13, line 20 to page 15, line 21), the assembly apparatus (10) comprising a support pair (70) which is formed by an inner guide support (74) extending in the cavity of the casing body (12) in the body longitudinal direction (X) and displaceably guiding the inner tool (85) and by an outer guide support (72) extending outside the casing body in the body longitudinal direction (X) and displaceably guiding the outer tool (83), wherein each guide support (72, 74) is rotationally mounted about at least one longitudinal rotation axis (81) oriented in accordance with the outer longitudinal contour of the casing body (12) and is mounted so as to be displaceable in at least two separate spatial directions (Y, W, Z) running transversely to the body longitudinal direction (X) and can be fixed in such a way that the tools (83, 85) in the pair, interacting in order to produce the joint seam, can optionally assume different positions at the longitudinal circumference of the casing body (12).

3 DEPENDENT CLAIMS

3.1 Dependent claims 2-13 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.
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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

they refer, meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step, see documents D1 and D2 and the corresponding passages cited in the search report.

3.2 The combination of features contained in dependent claim 14 is neither known from nor suggested by the available prior art.

The reasons for this are as follows:

The problem of the difficult-to-regulate distance between the two guide supports is solved through the use of two gantry devices.

The available prior art does not give a person skilled in the art any idea as to how to arrive at such an assembly apparatus comprising two gantry devices.